

*A History Of*

CANNING  
AND  
CANNING SCHOOL



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PUBLISHED FOR THE CANNING REUNION

— July 6, 1986 —



## Foreword

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This book is compiled in conjunction with the reunion of Canning School (S.S. 16) on July 6, 1986 at the Paris fair grounds.

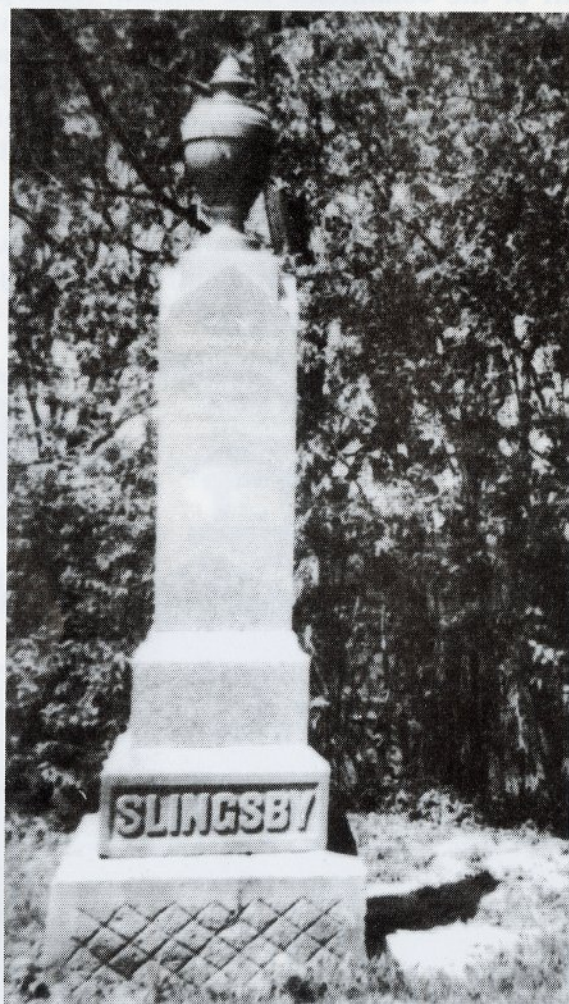
On behalf of the committee Eva Wilson, (chairperson), Beverley Skokun, (co-chairperson), Marjorie Burbank, Donald Curtis, Walter Gretzky, Jim Hardie, Agnes Hayward, Jack Hutchinson, Edna Pipe, Laura Sayles, Tony Skokun, Clara Decker, Nancy and Allan Johnson a thank you to all persons donating pictures and historical information to make this book possible.

The committee has made an effort to present the history of Canning as nearly correct as possible. They know there will be errors and omissions but trust all interested persons will understand the problems involved with the writing of a history book.



*CANNING SCHOOL — built in early 1800's, still stands and is now a private home.*





*Canning is said to have had the first woollen mill in Ontario and William Slingsby was the second owner, later moving to Brantford.*

## "The Days Of Wine And Railways"

*The Paris Star — May 1, 1975*

Was it one of the biggest "con" jobs of the mid 1800's, a rare bit of skull duggery — or a case of sour grapes?

Up until the 1850's, traffic in Upper Canada and later Ontario was by trail, dirt or gravel roads or by river. Oxen or horses provided the drawing power for the sleighs, buggies, wagons in the farming and industrial areas and good riding horses and pony carts were popular for domestic use.

But the scene changed drastically when the puffing, snorting iron horse made its appearance.

Suddenly, the problems caused by rain or snow on the country roads dissipated when the rails were laid and produce and travellers alike could be conveyed quickly and comfortably in the trains.

It became literally a matter of life and death for the villages and towns to be on or close to the railways. A station stop was a necessity. The factories had a tremendous advantage if they had close access to the freight sheds.

If communities such as Paris and Canning had no railway stations, they were at a great disadvantage. Thus, the competition was very keen and the suggestion of chicanery emerged.

Mrs. W. Roper, the former Norma Lewis, who grew up in Canning, wrote an interesting essay on Canning. She received some help from newspaper clippings and from Lloyd Gilfillan, a lifelong resident of Canning until he moved to his present home on West River Street.

We quote from the closing paragraph of her article: "Rumors still run that town officials 'sold' the railway to Paris for four barrels of wine. Paris residents told Canning officials that sparks from the steam engine would burn up their town and urged them to give up the idea of a railway. At one Canning council meeting, four barrels of wine were received from Paris with a note to 'think over the dangers of the railway'. The railway missed Canning only by two miles when the station was established at Paris."

We find it difficult to believe that the canny Canning councillors were taken in by such a play, unless they drank the wine before they discussed the business at hand.

Last Monday afternoon we got Mr. Gilfillan to drive around Canning with us. "That's where the textile mill was," he said, "and the mill was on the other side. You can see where the flume was from the dam and right there was where the vinegar works were and the carpenter shop was there,





*CANNING MILL HOUSE — destroyed by fire Dec. 29, 1970.*



the blacksmith shop was just about here and the distillery was down that lane towards the river."

Suddenly we could see the thriving village with people walking or riding the streets and the sounds of the blacksmith's hammer, the hum of machinery and the sharp smell of vinegar.

The vision faded when we visited the old cemetery at the back of William Johnson's farmhouse. It had become almost hidden in the underbrush until the Blenheim Township restored it in 1970. Now visible, clearly and in excellent condition are the stones marking the graves Abel Mudge and his wife Marcy who came from New York State. Abel died in 1832 and his wife in 1851. Elijah Mudge died in 1829. Then there are some of their children and there are the Rickerts, the McCoys, Churchs, Wells and others.

Mrs. Roper's story sheds much light on the community that showed such potential and then practically disappeared.

About 1812 Abel Mudge, Canning's earliest settler came from New York State and found good mill sites along the Nith. He and his family built two large dams, one on either side of the river. A large three storey flour mill was built on the stream. It had heavy lumber and clapboard siding equipped with three large mill stones — one for chopping and two for flour. Flour was milled there for 60 years with the process ceasing in 1890's.

Early in the 1800's a general store was built across the road from the mill and houses began to appear along the Mudge homestead. The community grew rapidly and new industries started to arrive. By the end of 1850, business and industries were thriving in the settlement. New settlers arrived and built houses along the banks of the Nith and as the community grew, hotels, schools and churches began to appear. By 1852, Canning was larger than Paris. Town officials planned new streets in the areas surrounding Mudge Hollow, then waited for prosperity.

The mill was later owned by a A.M. Nicol, who charged 5 cents a bag for chopping fees.

Across the road from the mill was the first general store, owned by John Luxford. In these premises, the post office first operated in 1850.

J. Monroe moved in and built a woollen mill across from the flour mill on the other side of the river, taking its power from one of the dams. This was an ideal spot for a woollen mill as sheep played an important part in agricultural ventures of the day. Previously the wool had to be taken to Paris,



four miles away, while now it could be disposed of while grist was being ground. The specialty of the mill was of top quality blankets, some which found their way to London, England, to one of the great fairs held in that city, where they took first prize. It is reported that Queen Victoria was very pleased with the fine blankets and arranged to buy them for her own use. At this time the mill was owned by Mr. Slingsby.

Also on the island an axe factory was in operation. There was also a distillery up Canning hill with whiskey selling at 60¢ a gallon.

A. Wood was the local blacksmith, while the Palmer brothers operated a shoe shop. David Galloway was the wagon maker and R. Pierce ran the hotel. The tannery was operated by Mr. Roberts, a carpenter shop by George Rehder and a large sawmill was owned by William Wells and sons. On the hill Sam Alchin had the vinegar works.

After the post office was opened, mail was received from Paris. It was the duty of Thomas Galbert, the blacksmith at Falkland, to go to Paris every morning and return the mail to Canning. Any farmer wanting his mail delivered could have it done for one dollar a year. For the delivery of mail from Paris to Canning, Mr. Galbert received 240 dollars per year.

There was a Methodist Church in Canning built in 1862 which was capable of seating 200 worshippers and built for 450 dollars. The Public School had an average attendance of 60 pupils. At this time education was somewhat of a luxury.

Prices of items were very low. An old clipping shows that 10 bars of soap cost 25 cents; tea, 6 lbs. for \$1.00, salmon per can 10 cents; pure maple syrup per quart 25 cents; Quaker brand tobacco, 4 plugs for 25 cents; infant's shoes, 25 cents a pair; girl's and boy's shoes 50 cents a pair; women's shoes 75 cents and men's shoes a dollar.

Suits sold from 10-14 dollars (Scotch and English Tweeds).

Around 1860 when Canning was at its peak it was becoming difficult to handle all the trade and business that was going on. Products were shipped out on small boats or taken by horse and carriage. It is little wonder then, that the prospects of having a railway line put through Canning caused great excitement. Unfortunately no definite settlement could be made as to just exactly where to run the line and the idea was eventually banished. The problem was that where the main line was running there happened to be a 300 foot bog. At first everything that was put into the bog would disappear. After much loss of time, the section boss, Mr. McAlpine, called



in Silas Wright Burt, who ordered iron testing rods to be built and driven into the bog. This test revealed that there were five to six feet of peat and then water to a depth of seventy feet. The peat was just an island floating on the water. To detour the line would have been too expensive. The men brought in ton after ton of sand, wood, brush, timber, rocks, etc. and tried to fill it in. Three times the railway fell into the depths of the bog. Even now men from the CNR have to come out to Canning every few years to build up the foundation of the tracks. Large hills have formed on either side of the tracks caused by all the stuff forced under the tracks.

Needless to say, the railroad found better sites in Paris for which to build a line and a station and Canning was left with no means of efficient transportation. It was not long before a decline in business was noticeable. The competition had the advantage of being able to load cargo into boxcars, while the millers at Canning had to team their products into Paris to ship by rail.

By 1885 the distillery had ceased to function and the vinegar works left in 1892. After Mr. Roberts died the tannery closed as did Simpson's carpenter shop. The Wells' sawmill moved to Princeton with the Post Office.

Church services were abandoned and the building was sold for a barn. A few buildings burnt down and eventually the old woollen mill, which had been the backbone of the community, was sold to Kitchens of Brantford.

The flour mill was the first to come and the last to go. The dams were beginning to show their age. Ross (who then owned the mill) tried to repair them but in 1914 they went out during the flood. This mill was torn down in 1934.

Today a busy highway (No. 2) and the CNR line both pass Canning, a hamlet of only 20 families who either work their farms or are employed in Paris or Brantford. This is a dark contrast to the days when Canning had 1,200 settlers.

## Faded Glory

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from an undated Paris Star story

On a whim last Sunday, we drove to Canning, just off the town line road on the banks of the Nith River about 3½ miles from Paris.

It was not the first time that we had visited the little corner settlement. In fact, during a very hot spell many years ago we used to swim near the old iron bridge there.

On Sunday, we remembered that Canning had been called





*CANNING STORE — in 1964. Since then the building has been renovated and is now the home of the Oscar Dafoe family.*



*GORDON WELLS — former owner of store*



*WELLS FAMILY — Martin Wells, Jay Wells, Mary Wells.*





Mudge Hollow after a certain Abel Mudge and that Paris' earliest prominent industrialist Norman Hamilton had come from there in 1831.

How, we asked ourselves, could the man who amassed a considerable fortune in about 15 years or so, build his magnificent mansion "Hillside" (Hamilton Place) in 1844 and retire at a comparatively early age to enjoy the fruits of his business acumen, get his start in such a small place.

We remembered that Gordon Wells who now lives on William Street in Paris had once operated a store in Canning.

We called on Mr. Wells who is a longtime friend and the mystery unfolded itself for me. Although he and his father Martin Wells built the store in 1907 and opened for business in 1908, they had by no means the first store there.

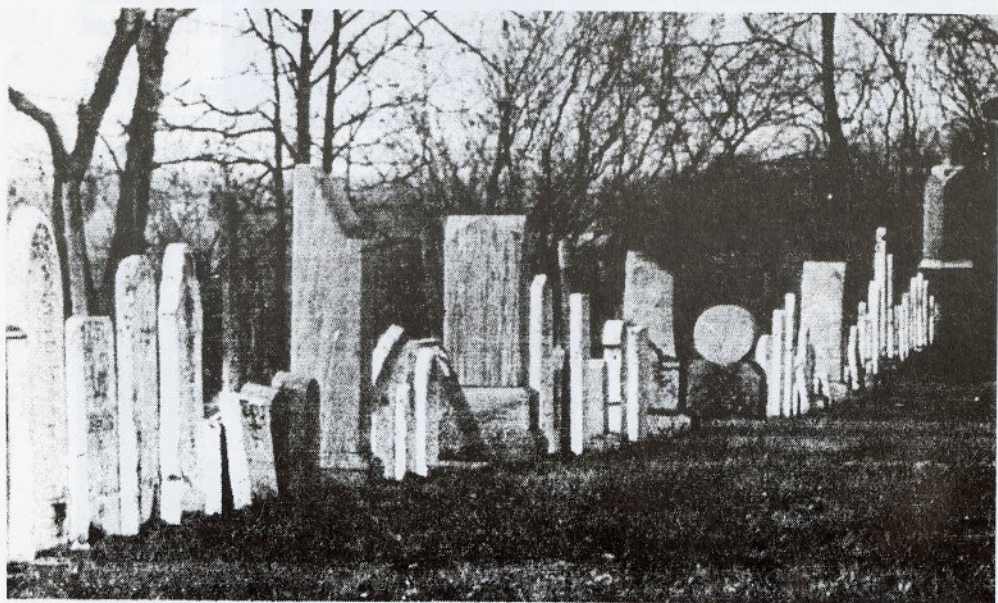
Mr. Wells' grandfather, Martin Wells Sr. and his wife were early settlers in Mudge Hollow which had a sawmill going before 1800. One, Abel Mudge, had secured water rights there on Smith's Creek (Nith River) in 1790, according to an early report by the Waterloo Historical Society. Shortly thereafter a dam and mill were built.

Mr. Hamilton came from the village Mendon, New York State, where he worked in a grist mill for a short time and then, like many Americans, felt the urge to move to a frontier area that was opening up. He worked in a distillery at Mudge Hollow and saved enough money to get a start in Paris which had just been surveyed by its founder Hiram Capron.





**Bridge over the Nith River at Canning.**



**More venerable tombstones at Canning.**



Back to Gordon Wells. He said his grandfather had acquired his farm and he and his wife had seven daughters in a row followed by three sons, one of which Martin Wells Jr. farmed on the townline. He and his wife had several children, Fred, Olivia, Martha, Frank, Joy and Gordon. (Hope we got that right).

Mr. Wells told us that in the early 1800's, Canning was a busy village of 700 people. There were two dams and two iron bridges across the Nith River. Industries included an axe factory, shoe factory, tannery, vinegar works, distillery, flour mill, woollen mill, blacksmith shop that also built a wagon a month, butcher shop, general store and carpenter shop. There were also a school and a church. The school still stands and Mr. Wells believes the carpenter's building was moved to the farm of E.H. Buck, RR 2, Paris.

The woollen mills produced a particularly fine blanket and samples sent to an exposition in England were purchased by Queen Victoria for her own use.

The village flourished until the railways came through the district in the 1850's. Unfortunately the line from London to Hamilton chose a route that bypassed Canning. It was close but there was no station and supplies coming by rail had to be hauled by team from Paris or goods shipped the same way. With this handicap business declined as industries located close to the railway stops. Roads were almost impassible certain times of the year.

"Thus, like many promising villages, the potential disappeared.

"Had the railway gone through Canning it would have been a big town today," Mr. Wells said.

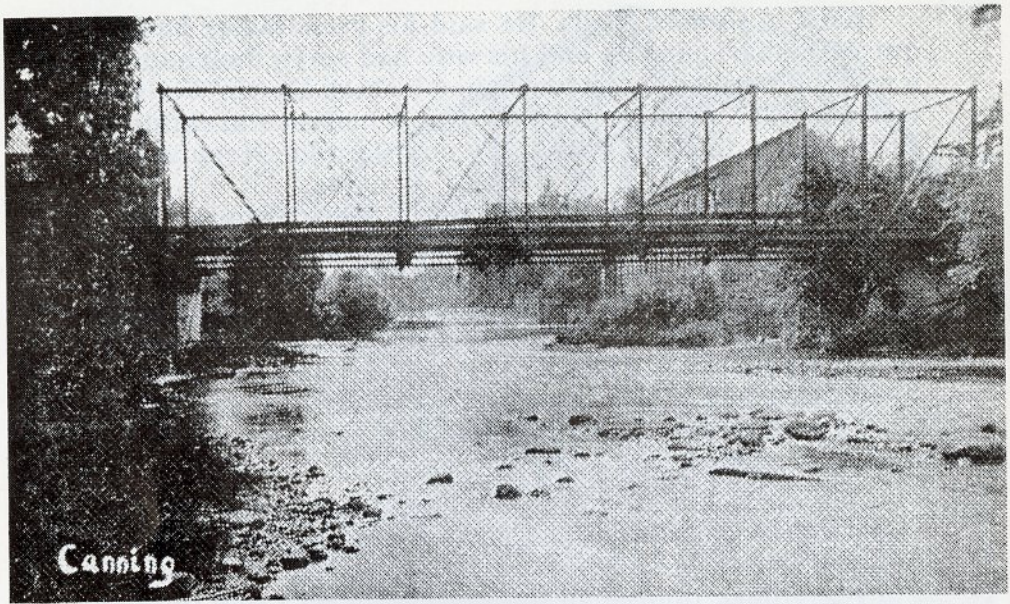
However, the store he ran from 1908 to 1920 did well. He sold out in 1920 and moved to Paris where he was in the employment of Charles McCausland and later John Ritchie until his retirement.

Scattered through Ontario are many small villages that once showed great promise and then faded with the coming of the railroads, cars, supermarkets, etc.

Sad but inevitable.

Store owners since 1907 have included Gordon Wells (builder), Mr. Smellie, Henry Parkinson, Mr. Bauman, Mrs. Margaret Stonehouse, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Zaveruka (store burned and was rebuilt during their ownership; at that time store moved upstairs), Mrs. Nomak.





## How Many Remember This Scene?

from an undated Ayr News article

This picture of Canning was taken about the turn of the century, just down river from the bridge across the Nith, and clearly demonstrates what a bustling industrial community it was at one time.

The photo, which was reproduced on a post card, was brought to The News office last week by Lloyd Gilfillan, a lifelong resident of the Canning community.

The actual pinpointing of the community is around the second lot in the 2nd concession of Blenheim Township on the banks of the Nith. But down through the years the term has come to mean any place within the general area.

As compared with the Canning of today, which is identified by a small store and a few residences, the village pictured above is startlingly different.

In the right background is the large textile mill, which operated during the last half of the past century and up until about 1906. Mr. Gilfillan said it was owned by the well-known Slingsby firm from Brantford, and was dismantled about 1912. In the background can be seen the dam which powered the big mill.

On the left can be discerned the prosperous flour mill, which was also operated by water, and no longer exists.



## **ONCE BID FOR INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE**

The Oxford County Gazetteer of 1862 states that Canning was first settled in 1812, and "bid fair to become quite an important place." It was known at that time as Mudge Hollow (which leads one to believe that there may have been some connection between the settling of Ayr and Canning, as both appear to have been founded by a man named Mudge — Ayr about 12 years later). The name was changed to Canning in 1842 and a post office established under that name in 1850.

## **CAME 40 MILES TO GRIST MILLS**

The first grist mills in that part of the country were built when the village was founded and new settlers came for 40 miles to mill their grain.

A Mr. Alchin was the principal real estate owner in Canning about 1850-60, according to the Gazetteer.

## **U.B. CHURCH FOR 200**

The size of the village in 1862 can be deduced by the fact that it contained a United Brethren Church capable of holding 200 worshippers, which was built for \$450. A good Common School had an average attendance of 60 pupils — at a time when education was somewhat a luxury.

## **WOOLLEN MILL STARTED BY J. MUNRO**

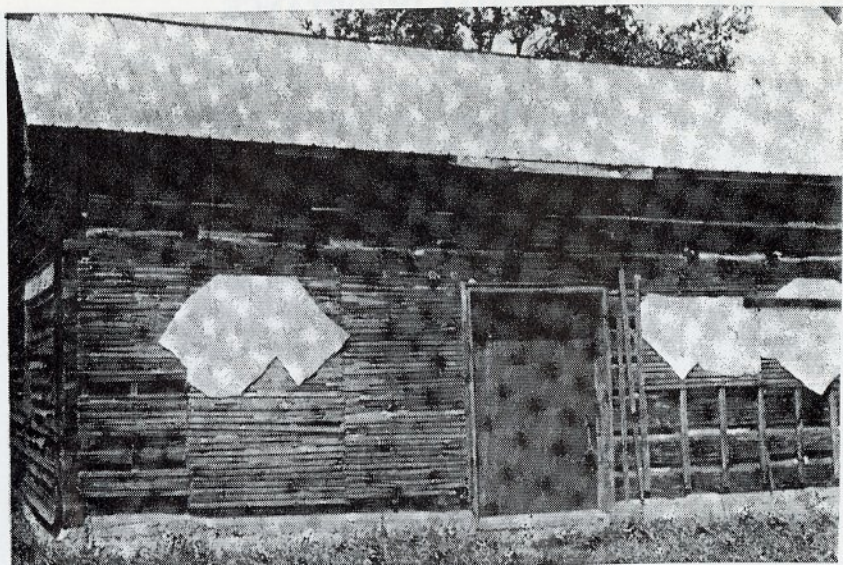
The industrial strength of the village was headed, of course, by the woollen factory which was established by a J. Munro, before it changed hands. James N. Williamson operated a large tannery and was also a "currier".

Thomas Wright owned the flour mills and George Richardson operated the general store. Alva Wood was proprietor of the busy blacksmith shop and Edmund Palmer ran a shoe shop with brothers Edward and Henry, shoemakers. Andrew Wetherwax also manufactured shoes. Charles Martin's butcher shop was well patronized and David Galloway, the wagon maker, was a busy man.

As in all communities of that period a tavern was part of the scene. The Canning Hotel was operated by R. Pierce for the accommodation of travellers.

Two other important figures in 1862 were the postmistress, Mrs. Raines, and Rev. Mr. Sherrick, pastor of the United Brethren Church.





*EARLY LOG CABIN — A railway and a busy highway today both bypass Canning, once a prosperous industrial settlement. This deserted log cabin stands on the Gilfillan farm near the community. Residents say it is the original log cabin Richard Mudge built for his family when he founded what was then called Mudge Hollow in 1812.*

## River Nith

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River Nith an unending stream,  
 For Countless years had flown unseen;  
 But now it flows past fields of grain,  
 Mossy banks and grassy plains.  
 Around some distant hill it strays,  
 Then back it comes to find its way;  
 Then on and on through ceaseless days,  
 Past woodland banks all wet with spray.  
 In valley deep where boulders lay,  
 It dashed through with foam and spray;  
 The sound it makes it never fades,  
 Though years they come and go their way  
 In silent mood it winds its way,  
 Past cottage near where children play;  
 Until it enters all too soon,  
 Into the Grand to meet its doom.

Fred Hysert



## Churches In Canning

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Early history of the village stated a Methodist Church was built in 1862. However extensive research done by Robert Karn of Princeton, now deceased showed in the 1850's John Mosher an elder in the United Brethren in Christ Church came to Blenheim Township from Pennsylvania and organized a congregation in Canning. At a later date churches at Gobles and Windfall were added to the circuit. It is believed the Canning United Brethren in Christ Church became a part of the thriving community around 1859. There is no exact deed but Sutherlands Gazetteer of 1862 states that a church was built for \$450.00 and seated 200 people. Early marriages dated back to 1859. In 1880 the first roll showed 32 members. It is felt the church attendance would have been larger in 1860 as the population was 300 people. In 1895 there were 24 families noted on the roll. The church was built on the southwest corner of the four corners in the village. Mrs. Jennie Curtis and Walter Cracknell are among those remembering where the old foundation of the church was situated overlooking the Nith River.

Dedicated ministers and lay people serving Canning and the remainder of the circuit from 1860 to 1903 were Rev. John Mosher, A.B. Sherk, R. Smith, J. Riddle, C.W. Backus, G. Waite, R. Head, J. Purdy, D. Dafoe and Rev. Sherrick.

Many local families namely Chandler, Mudge, Rouse, Showers, Martin, Whitfield, Webber, Turner, Sharp, Lewis, Phillipo and Cambell (note spelling) attended regularly until 1895. The congregation continued to drop in number and by 1903 only the names of Mrs. Mudge, Mrs. Phillipo and Mrs. Whitfield remained on the roll. The Canning charge ended its association with Gobles and Windfall. At the close, the clerk of the circuit commented that "the church was sold and thus lost".

The village also had a Baptist church located one hundred metres east of the main corner on the north side of the road. It was moved around the turn of the century and became part of an adjacent farm building owned then by Mr. Gear. The church is not listed in the 1862 Gazetteer so must have been built or moved to the site after that year.

Sodom, Muma's Corners, The Patch or Mudge Hollows, there were 25 school sections; 17 active. In 1945 they were divided into North and South sections and in 1963 the South sections were closed due to consolidation. The North sections closed in 1965.



## Canning School S.S. #16, Blenheim

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The oldest school still standing in the South section of Blenheim is located in Canning. Formerly known as Mudge Hollow until 1842. Canning during that period was a booming village with two large Grist Mills and many mill workers' cottages. Since there were a number of schools in Oxford County in 1844, it would seem that Canning had one of those early schools.

In the sixty year period between 1876 and 1936 attendance at S.S. #16 dropped from 100 students to 12 students. The establishment of a railway depot at Paris instead of Canning was the reason for the decline in population.

The school still standing is the original building and has changed very little over the years with the exception of installation of new floors in 1915 and again in 1937. The building was originally of clapboard construction and later refinished in 1928 with Brantford shingles. In 1935 a new belfry was built in which a bell was hung from the Old Canning Mill. Electricity was installed in 1937. The school was closed, and sold to Mr. Harvey Dafoe around 1963 by the South Blenheim school-board for the sum of \$1.00. It was later sold to Lloyd Moore, who used the building for constructing boats. It was then sold to Mr. Ken McKay. In 1975 the old schoolhouse was bought, restored and lived in for eight years by Bob and Debbie Braund and family.

### SOME FURTHER NOTES

The schoolhouse was built in the early 1840's.

After the school closed the original bell was taken from the belfry and set up in the Grand River Conservation Authority area known as Pinehurst Lake Park, where it still stands today.

After the school was purchased by M. Moore after 1963, Sunday School started. A Mr. Grieve came from Brantford every Sunday. It was then discontinued and restarted in the home of Bertha and Hazel Cracknell. Ray and Ruth Hunt who lived right next to the school for many years were the custodians. Mr. Hunt also worked at Richwood and Etonia schools.

The basement floor originally was three boards thick. Each layer was laid differently; consisted of three layers of one inch tongue and groove. The main floor was much the same, only thicker.

The original ceiling still remains, but the lights and the



blackboards were removed. When we (Braunds) purchased the school, we kept one of the original blackboards. We also found two of the old school desks and a pine book cupboard which we now use as a side-board. The original out-house foundations were still there after we moved, but we are not sure when the indoor washrooms were introduced. We also found an old 1907 one cent piece under the old basement floor. The furnace was replaced with a combination wood and oil, but we kept the heat control which was chain operated from the classroom upstairs. The front boasts Good Cheers Furnaces. We also left the two big registers in the floors as they lent charm and character to our home.

Most school books and memorabilia that were left in the school were thrown in a pile outside and burned by Mr. Lloyd Moore.

There was a lot of work, fun and memories in renovating the Old Canning Schoolhouse. Especially when we walked up those stairs into the old classroom, wondering how many others had walked those same steps. The grooves in the steps from memories long ago are still there.

The school is now owned by Vernon Vey. Many changes have been implemented. In renovating the entrance to the classroom it was found the front part had been added at a later date. The steps rose straight up into the classroom. This leads to the thought that the school was perhaps raised and a basement added at a later date, thus the side stairs both up and down were added.

Mr. Fred Parsons who attended the school in the early 1900's remembers the school as it was at its closing date. He has no knowledge of the steps going straight up from the entrance door leading thru to the front entrance. Renovations were made before 1900.

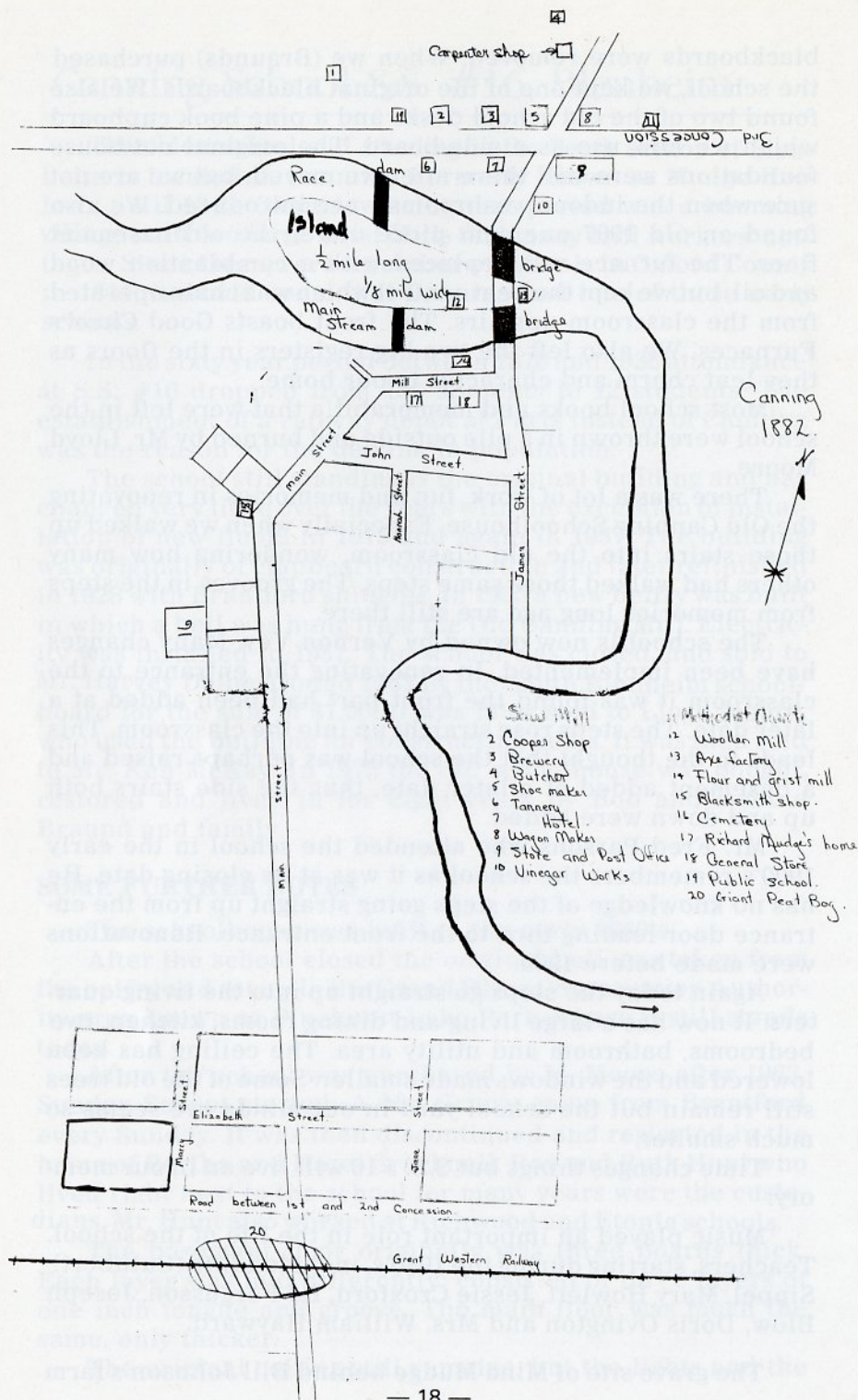
Again today the steps go straight up into the living quarters. It now has a large living and dining rooms, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom and utility area. The ceiling has been lowered and the windows made smaller. Some of the old trees still remain but the school yard in our minds eye seems so much smaller.

Time changes things but S.S. #16 will live on in our memory.

Music played an important role in the life of the school. Teachers, starting during the 1930's, included Effa (Cuthbert) Sippel, Mary Howlett, Jessie Croxford, Ed Fergusson, Joseph Blow, Doris Ovington and Mrs. William Hayward.

The grave site of Mina Mudge behind Bill Johnson's farm





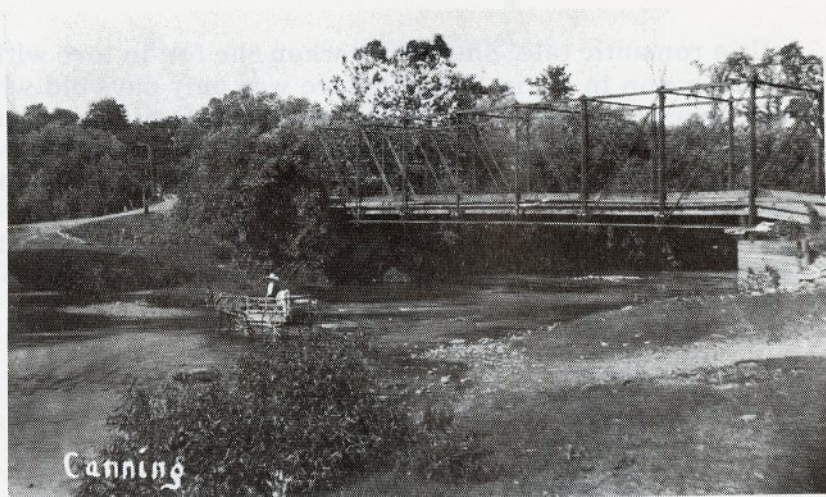


tells a romantic tale. She was 18 when she fell in love with a stone mason in Paris. The romance was only days old when she moved to Chicago with her parents. The family's business had failed in Canning. The stonemason gave her a rose carved in stone which she cherished all her life. They never saw each other again. Years passed, the girl married, raised a family and died. Her wish was to be cremated and her ashes returned to Canning with the stone rose on her tombstone. Her two sons carried out this wish.

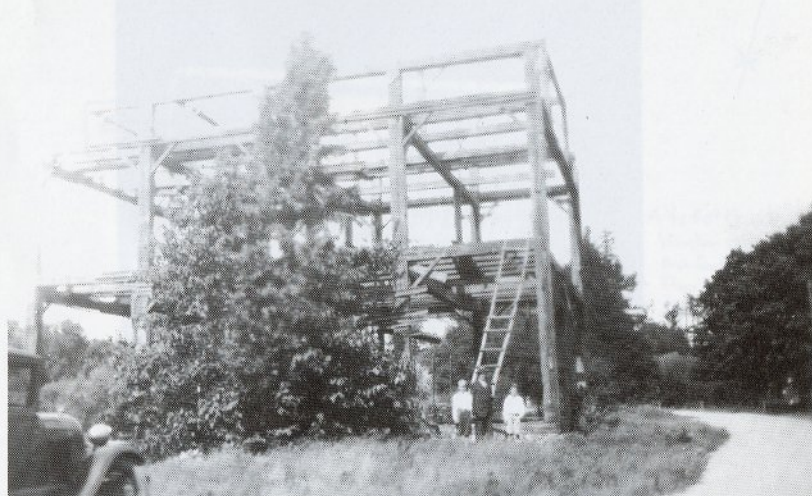


*BUDDING ROMANCE*— This rose, carved in stone on the tombstone of Mina Mudge in Canning cemetery, tells a romantic tale. A Paris stonemason gave it to her when she left Canning after falling in love with him. Her dying wish was to be cremated.





*The late George Rehder taking calf to slaughter house.*



*Old Mill being torn down. Donald Taylor and Alex Taylor in foreground.*



*Alex Taylor and granddaughter Jean in the foreground. Canning Mill and village houses in the background.*





*Old Canning Bridge*



**THE JOHNSON HOME** — *The former home of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Taylor shown with their children Elizabeth and Alexander.*



# Teachers For SS 16 Canning School

1898	K. Nicholes
1903	A. A. Hamilton
1912	M. E. Barkley
1913	S. M. Coleman
1914	B. E. Inksater
1923	M. R. Martin
1923-1927 (June)	R. A. Rush
1927 (Sept.)-1930 (June)	A. M. Patton
1930 (Sept.)-1936 (June)	V. Phyllis Grant
1936 (Sept.)-1937 (June)	Isobel Potter
1937 (Sept.)-1940 (June)	Phyllis Evans
1940 (Sept.)-1943 (June)	Elizabeth Guthrie
1943 (Sept.)-1946 (June)	Alma J. Jones
1946 (Sept.)-1947 (June)	Mary E. Cassidy
1947 (Sept.)-1948 (June)	Mrs. Ruth E. Richardson
1948 (Sept.)-1948 (Dec.)	P. Graham
1949 (Jan.)-1950 (June)	Vera Stewart
1950 (Sept.)-1952 (June)	Isobel Muir
1952 (Sept.)-1953 (June)	S. Louise Dafoe
1953 (Sept.)-1954 (June)	L. Jean McIluraith
1954 (Sept.)-1956 (June)	S. Louise Dafoe
1956 (Sept.)-1958 (June)	Mrs. E. Lofthouse
1958 (Sept.)-1963 (June)	S. Louise Dafoe



1912 — Back Row (left to right): Georgina Rehder, Ivan Hough, Grace McAllister, M. E. Barkley (teacher), Laura Smith, Richard Hutchinson, Annabel Hough, Fred Anderson. Second Row (left to right): Gladys Daniels, Margaret Cunningham, Alice Hutchinson, Viola Hutchinson, Helen Cracknell (with slate), Grace Hutchinson, Ethel Parsons, Edith Parsons. Third Row (left to right): Laverne Parsons, Jack Cunningham, Lloyd Gilfillan, Stan McAllister, Morley Daniels, John Anderson.



Public (or Separate) School, in School Section No. 16 of the Township of Blenheim

in the School of Canning (City, Town or Village) [ If there are two or more schools under the control of the Board, the local name should be inserted in the next blank. ]

PUPILS REGISTER NUMBER	FORM	PUPILS			PARENTS OR GUARDIANS		BOYS	GIRLS	PHONE NUMBER
		NAME	DATE OF BIRTH			NAME	ADDRESS		
			Year	Month	Day				
1		Cracknell Hazel	1908	Oct	28	R. Cracknell	Canning	1	730m 40
2		Hutchinson Ethel	1912	Mar	12	J. Hutchinson	Canning	1	
3		Hutchinson Lottie	1910	Feb	24	J. Hutchinson	Canning	1	
4		Martin Lottie	1910	Mar	23	W. Martin	R.R. No. 2 Pains	1	880m 40
5		M. Eger Lillian	1909	Mar	9	R. Eger	Canning	1	87m 40
6		Wells Martha	1909	Dec	25	F. Wells	R. R. No. 2 Pains	1	710m 40
7		Selffellow Gordon	1907	Aug	5	W. Selffellow	R.R. No. 2 Pains	1	
8		Wright Catherine	1912	Mar	11	J. Morris	Canning	1	
9									
10									
11		Cracknell Bertha	1914	July	23	R. Cracknell	Canning	1	730m 40
12		Martin Alma	1913	Aug	18	W. Martin	R.R. No. 2 Pains	1	880m 40
13		Merrill Ernest	1912	Mar	10	J. Merrill	Canning	1	
14									
15		Raycraft Gordon	1912	Apr	24	W. Raycraft	Canning	1	
16		Cunningham Clifford	1911	Apr	12	H. Cunningham	R.R. No. 2 Pains	1	370m 40
17									
18		Merrill Francis	1914	Sept	10	J. Merrill	Canning	1	
19		Hutchinson Beatrice	1915	July	18	J. Hutchinson	Canning	1	
20		Wright Martha	1915	Nov	1	R. Wright	Canning	1	
21									
22		McNally Bertrude	1915	Dec	13	H. McNally	Canning	1	
23		Raycraft Kenneth	1914	Jan	18	W. Raycraft	Canning	1	
24		Levyberry Rhytha	1915	Nov	5	J. Levyberry	R.R. No. 1 Pains	1	600m 40
25									
26		Smellie Ann	1917	Apr	1	G. Smellie	Canning	1	800m 40
27		Raycraft Jessie	1915	Aug	27	W. Raycraft	Canning	1	
28		Levyberry Billie	1917	Feb	25	J. Levyberry	R.R. No. 2 Pains	1	600m 40
29									
30		Wright Bobbie	1917	Oct	3	R. Wright	Canning	1	
31		Kendry Marguerite	1916	Dec		Mrs. Remer	R.R. 2 Pains	1	
32									
33									
34									
35		Raycraft Albert	1916	Apr	7	W. Raycraft	Canning	1	
36									
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TEACHER'S NAME	ADDRESS	DATE OF APPOINTMENT
M. R. Martin	Pains Oul.	Sept. 23, 1922
R. A. Rusk	Pain Oul.	Sept. 14, 23

(If there is a change of teacher during the year, use the second line.)



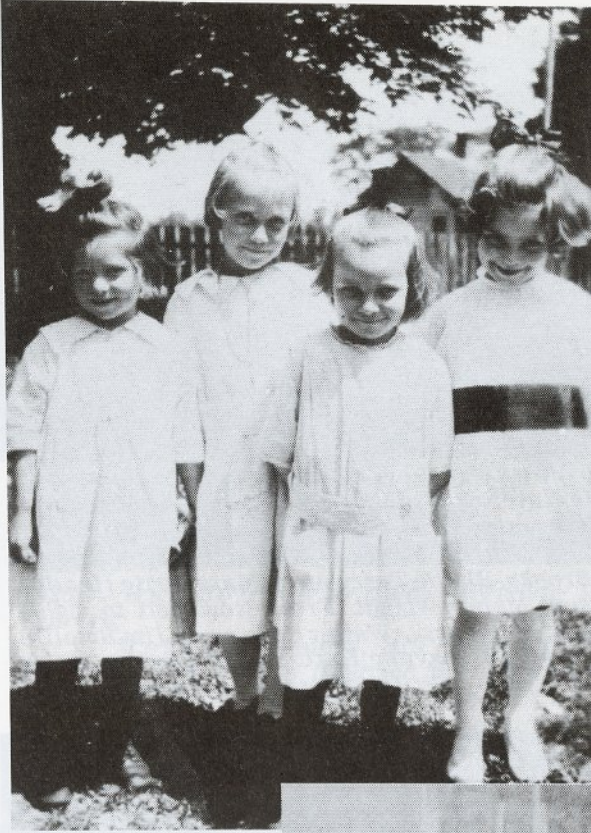


1913 — Back Row (left to right): Burt Martin, Ralph Kitchen, Dick Hutchinson, Fred Anderson, Miss S. M. Coleman (teacher) Annabel Hough, Viola Hutchinson, Velma Mellick. Second Row (left to right): Alice Hutchinson, Edith Hutchinson, Hazel Cracknell, Margaret Cunningham, Velma Kennedy, Eva Racknor, Helen Cracknell, Grace Hutchinson, Selena Baker. Front Row (left to right): Reggie Hutchinson, Harold Cracknell, Ainsley Baker, John Baker, Charlie Baker, Harold Kennedy, John Anderson, Lloyd Gilfillan, Ivan Hough.



1922 — Back Row (left to right): Stewart McGregor, Louis Kitchen, Martin Wells, , Arthur Eaton. Second Row (left to right): Mrs. Hutchinson, Ken Raycraft, Willie Hurst, Ernie Merrell, Louie McIntyre, Ada Merrell, Baker, Clifford Cunningham, Sadie Hutchinson, Edith Hutchinson, Eva Edwards, Hazel Cracknell, Ethel Hutchinson, Alice Hutchinson, Kitty Wyatt, Miss Myrtle Holmes. Third Row (left to right): Edna Edwards, Bob Wright, Beatrice Hutchinson, Jessie Raycraft, Alma Martin, Bertha Cracknell, Gertrude McNallie, Mabel Wright (hat), Marguerite Hendra, Daisy Hutchinson, Beatrice Merrell. Front Row (left to right): Jimmie Smellie, Anne Smellie.





*PLAY TIME  
(Approximately  
1922) — Mabel  
Wright, Alma Martin,  
Beatrice Hutchin-  
son, Bertha  
Cracknell.*

*SCHOOL DOOR  
(Approximately  
1920) —*

*(on ladder), Ethel  
Hutchinson,  
Hazel  
Cracknell, Alice  
Hutchinson, Mary  
Martin, Harold  
Cracknell, Miss  
Holmes,  
Eva  
Edwards, Mabel  
Wright,  
Beatrice Hutchinson,  
Bertha Cracknell,  
Alma Martin, Sadie  
Hutchinson, Alice  
Edwards, Kitty  
Wyatt, Martin Wells  
(wheelbarrow).*







1924-1925 — Miss Ruby Rush (teacher). Back Row (left to right): Gertrude McNallie, Jessie Raycraft, Frances Merrill, Bertha Cracknell, Alma Martin, Blanche Brooks, Ernie Merrill, Ken Raycraft, Clifford Cunningham. Second Row (left to right): Bob Wright, Ralph Brooks, Bill Terryberry, Ray Brooks, Blythe Terryberry, Marguerite Hendra, Beatrice E. Hutchinson, Mabel Wright. Front Row (left to right): Pearl Raycraft, Pauline Terryberry, Walter Cracknell, Jim Smellie, Doris Brooks, Albert Raycraft, Gwynne Hardie, Ann Smellie, Daisy Hutchinson. Deceased: Ernie Merrill, Clifford Cunningham, Mabel Wright.



1925 — Back Row (left to right): Gertrude McNallie, Beatrice E. Hutchinson, Blythe Terryberry, Miss Ruby Rush (teacher), Bertha Cracknell, Mabel Wright, Bob Wright, Lorne Hutchinson. Middle Row (left to right): Daisy Hutchinson, Pauline Terryberry, Ann Smellie, Beatrice M. Hutchinson, Brenda Cosier, Les Cosier, Walter Cracknell. Front Row (left to right): Jackie Hardie, Grace Hardie, Jack Smellie, Gwen Hardie, Agnes Wright, Jim Smellie.





1926 — Back Row (left to right): Gertrude McNallie, Blythe Terryberry, , Beatrice Hutchinson, , Marguerite Hendra, Bill Terryberry. Middle Row (left to right): Gwynne Hardie, Beatrice M. Hutchinson, Jim Smellie, Walter Cracknell, Pauline Terryberry, Grace Hardie, Austin Parnall, Bob Wright, Mabel Wright. Front Row (left to right): Jack Smellie, Bill Hart, , Alice Hart, , Marion Terryberry, Ann Smellie, Agnes Wright.



1930 — Back Row (left to right): Austin Parnall, Bob Wright, Walter Burbank, Jackie Hardie, Beatrice M. Hutchinson, Daisy Hutchinson, Ruth Parkinson, Pauline Terryberry. Second Row (left to right): Fred Parkinson, Grace Hardie, Billy Hart, Marjorie Wright, Lorne Hutchinson, Evelyn Martin, Vera McNallie, Agnes Wright, Alice Hart, Gwen Hardie. Third Row (left to right): Jack Terryberry, Jack Hutchinson, Alta Martin, Rose Hart. Phyllis Grant (teacher).





*Miss Phyllis Grant (teacher)  
1930-36, 1937-40*



*Isobel Potter (teacher) 1936-37*





*CANNING SCHOOL 1933 — Back Row (left to right): Fred Parkinson, Jackie Hardie, Marion Terryberry, Grace Hardie, Jack Terryberry, Evaleen Martin. Second Row (left to right): Marjorie Wright, Lorne Hutchinson, Marie Crump, Fern Dennis, Alta Martin, Jack Hutchinson. Front Row (left to right): Edna Racknor, Ella Zand, Audrey Dennis, Mildred Dennis, Laura Terryberry.*



*SEPTEMBER 1938 — Agnes Wright, Marjorie Wright, Fred Parkinson, Marion Terryberry (deceased), Bob Wright.*





1939 — (left to right): Olga Gretzky,  
Marjorie Wright, Tanya Schneider.



1939 — (left to right): Laura Terryberry, Nellie Horrocks, Marjorie  
Wright, Marion Terryberry, Agnes Wright.





MARCH 1938 — (left to right): Bill Horrocks, Earl Parkinson, Fred Parkinson, Bill Terryberry, Bob Wright.

1940 — (left to right)

Barbara Horrocks,

Ella Zand.





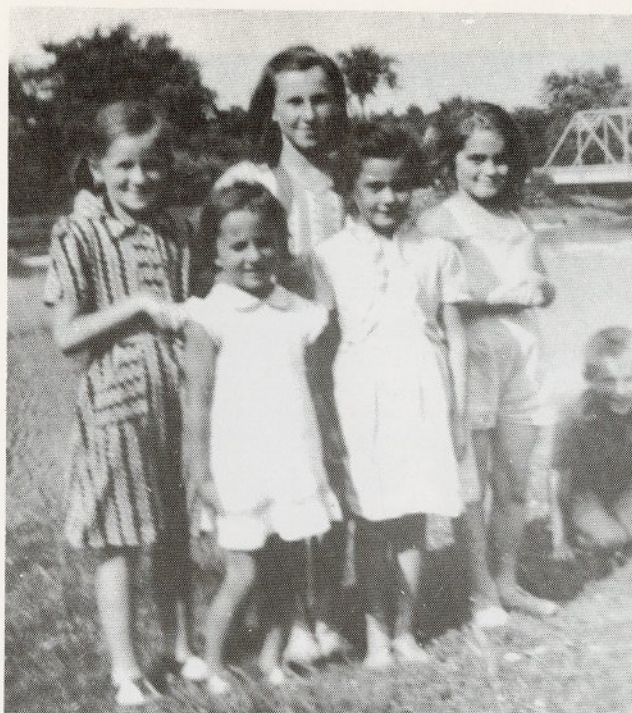


1938 — Mrs. Arthur Evans (teacher) (deceased). Back Row (left to right): Jim Curtis, Neil Smith, Glen Cain, Bill Horrocks, Ann Smith, Olga Gretzky, Edna Racknor, Laura Terryberry. Second Row (left to right): Eleanor Hutchinson, Lorraine Curtis, Clara Hardie, Joyce Phillips, Joyce Mellick, Barbara Horrocks, Jean Sutor, Ella Zand, Jean Cain. Front Row (left to right): Mac Hough, George Smith, Jim Hardie, Douglas Sutor, Bruce Mellick, Russell Horrocks, Eddie Gretzky. Olga Gretzky, Mac Hough, Ann Smith (deceased).



1939 — Mrs. Arthur Evans (teacher) (deceased). Back Row (left to right): Joyce Mellick, Laura Terryberry, Olga Gretzky (deceased), Emma Palmer, Edna Racknor, Ella Zand, Marjorie Martin, Barbara Horrocks, Jean Sutor, Mrs. Evans. Middle Row (left to right): Bruce Mellick, Neil Smith, Mac Hough (deceased), Jim Curtis, Walter Schneider, John Schneider, Jean Cain, Clara Hardie. Front Row (left to right): Sophie Gretzky, Walter Schneider, Lorraine Curtis, Eleanor Hutchinson, George Smith, Russell Horrocks, Douglas Sutor, Eddie Gretzky, Irene Schneider.





1940-1943 — Back Row  
(left to right): Sophie  
Gretzky, Irene Schneider.

Front Row (left to right):  
Jennie Gretzky, Eva  
Hardie, Lorraine Curtis.

Kneeling:  
Harry Schneider.



1940-1943 — Back Row (left to right): Neil Smith, Douglas Sutor, Jim  
Hardie, Bruce Mellick, George Smith, Russell Horrocks, Jim Curtis,  
Danny Forbes, Joyce Mellick, Irene Schneider, Clara Hardie. Middle  
Row (left to right): Eleanor Hutchinson, Lorraine Curtis. Front Row  
(left to right): Alex Kischak, Harry Schneider, Eva Hardie, Gladys  
Forbes, Jennie Gretzky, Sophie Gretzky, Pat Kischak.





*JUNE 1943 — Miss Elizabeth Guthrie (teacher). Back Row (left to right): Russell Horrocks, Harry Schneider, Eddie Gretzky, Douglas Sutor, Jim Curtis, Danny Forbes, Lloyd Sirota, Bruce Mellick. Middle Row (left to right): Clara Hardie, Irene Schneider, Joyce Mellick Eleanor Hutchinson. Third Row (left to right): Sophie Gretzky, Lorraine Curtis, Gladys Forbes, Alex Kischak. Front Row (left to right): Eva Hardie, Jennie Gretzky, Pat Kischak, Donnie Curtis, Billy Cracknell.*





1943-1944 — Miss Alma Jones (teacher). Back Row (left to right): Lorraine Curtis, Sophie Gretzky, Eleanor Hutchinson, Irene Schneider, Alma Jones (teacher), Danny Forbes, Douglas Sutor, Eddie Gretzky, Russell Horrocks. Middle Row (left to right): Pat Kischak, Jennie Gretzky, Eva Hardie, Gladys Forbes, Jim Hardie, Lloyd Sirota, Bruce Mellick, Harry Schneider. Front Row (left to right): Bill Cracknell, Steve Kischak, Walter Gretzky, Donnie Curtis, Alex Kischak.





*THE NASH FAMILY — Back Row (left to right): Tanya Nash, Lillian Nash. Front Row (left to right): Billy Nash, Walter Nash*



*(Left to right): Bill Cracknell, Lillian Nash, Geraldine O'Connor.*





*CHOPPING WOOD — Back Row (left to right): Irene Schneider, Gladys Forbes, . Front Row (left to right): Harry Schneider, Jim Hardie, Lloyd Sirota.*



*GRADE THREE — (left to right): Geraldine O'Connor, Billy Cracknell.*





*Georgina Kischak*



*Ruth and Evelyn Youzwa*

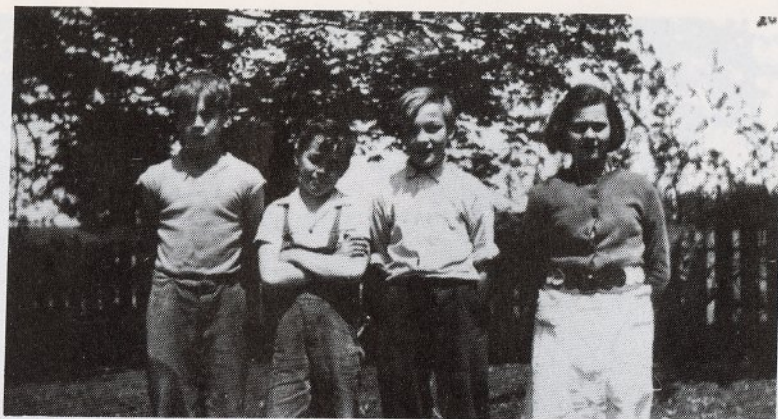


*Eddie Gretzky*



*Lorraine & Don Curtis*

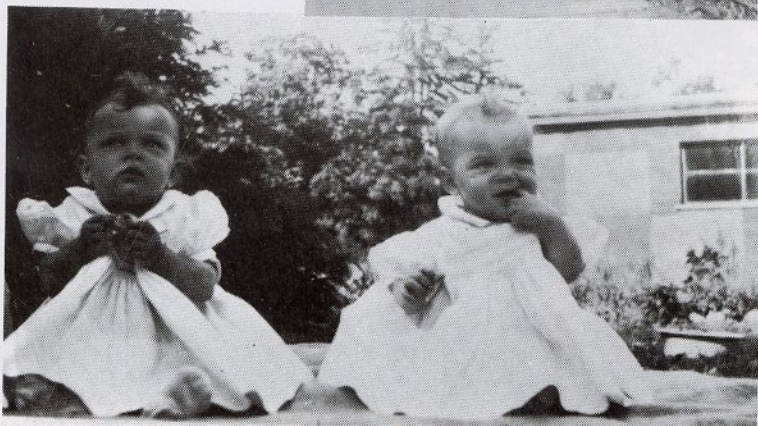




*GRADE SIX — (left to right): Odiel Delaere, Don Curtis, Alex Kischak, Eva Hardie.*

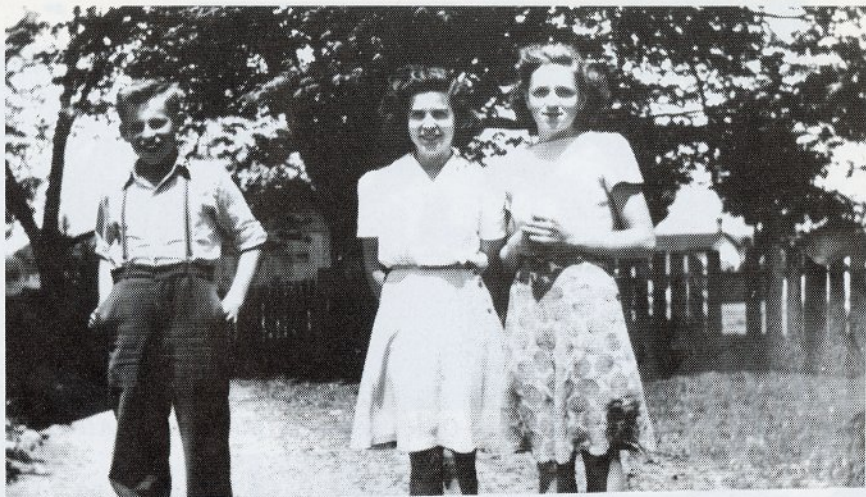


*Billie (Nakoneskny) Nash*



*VICTORIA DAY, 1945 — (left to right): Victor and Victoria Kischak.*

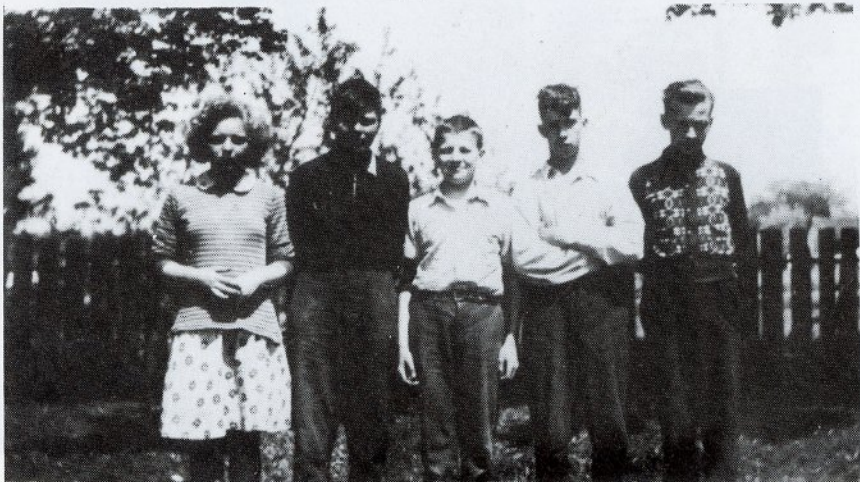




1945-46 — (left to right): Harry Schneider, June O'Connor, Sophie Gretzky.



(Left to Right):  
Gladys Forbes,  
Agnes O'Connor,  
Eva Hardie.



(Left to Right): Gladys Forbes, Jim Hardie, John Licskai, Ron O'Connor, Lloyd Sirota.





*GRADE ONE — Back Row (left to right): Stella Sirota, Dickey Forbes, Joan Martin, Allen Johnson, Harold (Butch) O'Connor. Front Row (left to right): Lillian Johnson, Ernie Licskai, Jimmy Licskai.*



*Back Row (left to right): Stevie Kischak, Walter Nash, Youzwa. Front Row (left to right): Jimmy Licskai, Ernie Licskai, Russell Cabak, Stella Sirota.*





*WINTER PICTURE (Measles in school) — (left to right): Alma Jones, Ronnie O'Connor, Harold O'Connor, Gladys Forbes, Jennie Gretzky, Santa Claus (Nellie Horrocks), Billie Nakoneskny (Nash), Tanya Nash, Lillian Nash, Don Curtis, June O'Connor, Geraldine O'Connor.*



*(Left to Right): Albert Gretzky, Steve Kischak, Alex Kischak, Walter Gretzky.*





*(Left to Right): Jennie Gretzky,  
Sophie Gretzky, Pat Kischak*



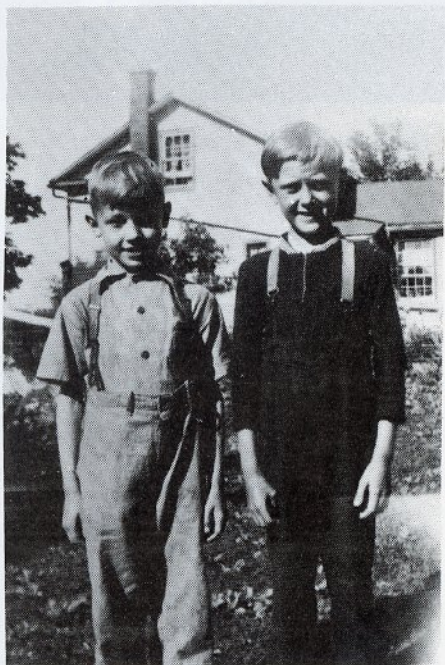
*Pat Kischak, Jennie Gretzky.*





*Back Row (left to right): Walter Nash,  
Donnie Martin.*

*Front Row (left to right):  
Ruth and Evelyn Youzwa.*



*Donnie Martin, Walter Nash.*





1948 — Back Row (left to right): Margaret Thompson, Don Curtis, Jennie Gretzky, Eva Hardie, Lillian Nash, Mrs. Ruth Richardson (teacher). Middle Row (left to right): Billy Cracknell, Stella Sirota, Walter Gretzky, Lorraine Curtis, Gordon Ellis. Front Row (left to right): David Richardson, Cathy Richardson, Albert Gretzky, Walter Nash.



Back Row (left to right): Sophie Gretzky, Lorraine Curtis, Tanya Nash, Lillian Nash, Margaret Thompson, , Bill Cracknell, Gordon Ellis. Middle Row (left to right): Ellen Gretzky, Jennie Gretzky, Donnie Martin, Joan Martin, Harold O'Connor, Walter Gretzky. Front Row (left to right): Mary Lynn O'Connor, Agnes O'Connor, Albert Gretzky.





1948 — Mrs. Ruth Richardson (teacher) Back Row (left to right): Jennie Gretzky, Pat Kischak, Gladys Forbes, Eva Hardie, Lillian Nash, Odiel Delaere. Tanya Nash, Mrs. Richardson. Middle Row (left to right): Albert Gretzky, Lillian Johnson, Agnes O'Connor, Joan Martin, Stella Sirota, Mary Eckenswiller, Allan Johnson, Ernie Liciskai. Second Row (left to right): Walter Gretzky, Geraldine O'Connor, Bill Cracknell, Donnie Curtis, Jim Cabak (deceased), Steve Kischak, Walter Nash. Front Row (left to right): Harold (Butch) O'Connor, Russell Cabak, Earl Eckenswiller, Donnie Martin, Billy Nash, Jimmy Liciskai, Dickey Forbes.



Miss Isobel Muir (teacher) 1950-52 (deceased)





1952 — Back Row (left to right): Dick Forbes, Walter Gretzky, Don Martin, Steve Kischak, Joan Martin, Stella Sirota, Albert Gretzky, Ernie Licskai. Middle Row (left to right): Georgina Kischak, Amel Trynscity, Melvin Skokun, Allen Johnson, Russell Cabak, Eileen Johnson, Beverly Ashby, Jim Licskai, Marilyn Cabak, Lillian Johnson. Front Row (left to right): Bruce Johnson, Victor Kischak, Walter Lomas, Chester Lomas, Victoria Kischak, Joan Cunningham, Carol Lomas, David Croff (deceased), Tony Skokun.





1954 — Mrs. Louise Dafoe (teacher) Back Row (left to right): Willy deBruine, Marilyn Cabak, Lillian Johnson, Lillian Slavik, Sylvia DeBoer, Melvin Skokun, Ernie Lieskai, Russell Cabak, Jim Lieskai, Mrs. Dafoe. Second Row (left to right): Gordon Ashby (deceased), Simon DeBoer, David Croff (deceased), Billy Skokun, Linda Cracknell, Carol Lomas, Joan Cunningham, Victoria Kischak, Frances Cheslea, Billy Terryberry, Walter Lomas. Third Row (left to right): Chester Lomas, Donnie Thornborrow, Eileen Johnson, Tony Skokun, Bruce Johnson, Georgina Kischak, David deBruine, Beverly Ashby, Koos Wagenaar, Victor Kischak. Front Row (left to right): Oscar Dafoe, Shirley Lomas, Bobby Terryberry, Linda Ashby, Carol Horrocks, Ellen Gretzky, Denise Slavik, Wendy Allen, Beverly Johnson, Margaret Croff.



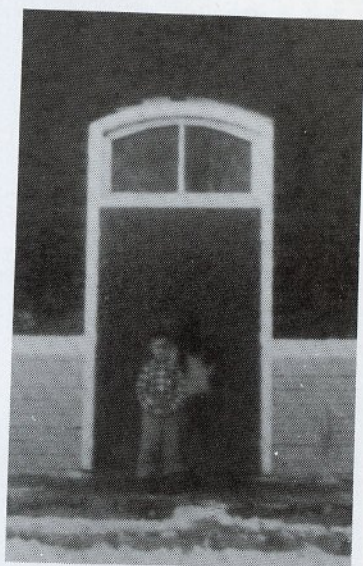


1958 — Mrs. Louise Dafoe (teacher). Back Row (left to right): Linda Cracknell, Mary Slavik, Dianna Saunders, Dougie Saunders, Mrs. Dafoe (deceased), Bruce Johnson, Joan Cunningham, Nick Edelman, Victoria Kischak. Second Row (left to right): Margaret Croff, Ernie Ashby, Oscar Dafoe, Glen Martin, Lynda Saunders, Ann Cunningham, Nancy Horrocks, Larry Cracknell, Denise Slavik. Third Row (left to right): Beverly Johnson, Linda Ashby, Dorothy Kischak, Carol Horrocks, Bobby Terryberry, Gord Ashby (deceased), Billy Terryberry. Front Row (left to right): Kathleen Croff, Wilson Dafoe, Barry Davis, Henry Johnson, Frances Cheslea, Mary Terryberry.





*CANNING SUNDAY SCHOOL 1953*



*BOB CHESLEA*

*1960 — (left to right): Doug Schermerhorn, Bob Cheslea, Diane Hunt, Schermerhorn, Barbara Banks, Terry Braund, Dorothy Kischak, Dennis Slavik, Mrs. Louise Dafoe (teacher).*





*CANNING SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC 1962 — Back Row (left to right): Carl Green, Jean Lewis, Louise Dafoe, Barbara Munroe, Bill Lewis, Dawn Lewis, Cindy Munroe, Jim Grieve. Front Row (left to right): Billy Green, Susan Dafoe, Robin Munroe, Norma Lewis, Wilson Dafoe.*



*CANNING SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC 1962*





*SCHOOL PLAY IN 1960 — Pat Moore, Kenneth and Steven Moore.*



*CANNING SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC*





## Sunday School In Canning

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Sunday school classes were held in several homes for many years following the closing of the churches.

In the early 1950's Mr. and Mrs. Harold Grieve and family of Central Baptist Church, Brantford became interested in starting regular Sunday classes. One open class for children and adults was begun. Mr. Grieve through the use of graphics told the stories of the Bible. Sunday school was held in the homes and in the school until its closing and was moved to the Cracknell home. Mrs. Jean Lewis was pianist for several years. In the late 1960's through the lack of interest the Sunday School was discontinued leaving the residents to travel farther abroad for Christian Education.



*CANNING SUNDAY SCHOOL JUNE 1968 — (left to right): Mrs. H. Grieve, Bill Green, Jean Green, Jean Lewis, Bertha Cracknell, Hazel Cracknell, Marjorie Cracknell, Alma Williams, Mrs. Brooks, Mr. Brooks, Walter Cracknell.*





**SCHOOL CLOSES JUNE 1963** — Along with the other small schools in Blenheim Township School Area No. 3 Canning School will close its doors forever on Friday. The occasion was marked recently by a final school concert — the last of many to be held in this modest building.

Pictured above are the students at the school with the exception of eight who were absent when the photograph was taken: Bottom Row (left to right): Wilson Dafoe, Norma Lewis, Kathleen Croff, Patsy Vandenbergh, Diane Snively, Ann Braund, Barbara Snively, Howard Johnson, Kenneth Moore, Bobby Cheslea. Second Row (left to right): Billy Green, Steven Moore, Ronnie Cheslea, Betty Cunningham, Patricia Campbell, Cathy Campbell, Diane Braund, Gerry Vandenbergh, Linda Croff, Diane Kischak, Zeina Vandenbergh, Susan Dafoe. Back Row (left to right): Mrs. Louise Dafoe (teacher), Tommy Snively, Henry Johnson, Bobby Braund, Mary Terryberry, Beverly Johnson, Monica Cabak, Frances Cheslea, Sylvia Vandenbergh, Diane Hunt.





LAST PUPILS AT TOWNLINE SCHOOL — First Row (left to right): Bruce Beemer, George Kyle, Robert Darby, David Ritchie, David Darby, David Kinnaird, Larry Cracknell. Second Row (left to right): Willie Rodger, Sheila Kyle, Cheryl Harrison, Patsy Ritchie, Marlene Ritchie, Debbie Harrison, Sheila Edgar, Terry Beemer, Jeanne Harrison. Third Row (left to right): Dawn Lewis, Barbara Knox, Ann Cunningham, Nancy Horrocks, Josephine Wynen, Henriette Wynen. Fourth Row (left to right): Jack Kyle, Oscar Dafeo, Glenn Martin, John Cabak, Bob Edgar, Floyd Beemer, Jim Robson.



ONE-TWO-THREE-FOUR

Who are we for?

WE'RE for CANNING

RAH-RAH-RAH

C·A·N·N·I·N·G

Thats the way you spell it

NOW here's the WAY

TO YELL IT

CANNING

